

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/682,134

Examiner

Tonia L. Meonske

Applicant(s)

LUICK, DAVID ARNOLD

Art Unit

2181

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Interview herein and attached amendment filed with Examiner on July 26, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date Part of this Paper.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other See Continuation Sheet.

Continuation of Attachment(s) 9. Other: Amendment filed with Examiner on 7/25/07.

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Pursuant to MPEP 606.01, the title has been changed to read:

"Single Cycle Context Switching by Swapping a Primary Latch Value and a Selected Secondary Latch Value in a Register File"
3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in telephone interviews with Bret Peterson on July 25, 2007.
4. The amendment according to the attached document (six pages) filed on July 25, 2007 has been entered.
5. In claim 21, lines 2, 4, and 9, the limitation "a plurality of" has been changed to "at least three",
6. In claim 21, line 13, insert "at least three" before the limitation "secondary latches".
7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
 - a. The prior art of record has not taught or suggested "performing a context switch in a single cycle between the primary latch and the selected one secondary latch that causes the second value in the primary latch to be stored in the selected one secondary latch, and that causes the first value in the selected

on secondary latch to be stored in the primary latch" in combination with the claimed storing, moving and selecting steps of claim 21.

b. Parady, US Patent 6,295,600, has taught switching register values on a thread switch, but the values are switched in and out such that a true swap does not occur. For example, Parady has taught in Figure 7, on a context switch, storing the value in register 184 to shadow register 0 and storing another value in a selected one of shadow registers 1-3 to register 184. The difference is that instead of truly swapping two values (register 184 with shadow register 0), which is what claim 21 requires, Parady has taught that a value in register 184 is stored in one of the shadow registers and another value in a second different shadow register is stored in register 184.

c. Daniel et al., US Patent 5,987,258, has taught swapping a main, or primary latch with a shadow, or secondary latch on a context switch (see Daniel et al., column 2, lines 14-25), but Daniel et al. has not taught selecting a secondary latch from at least three secondary latches.

d. Lu et al., US Patent 6,430,083, has taught swapping a primary latch with a secondary latch (Figure 6), but Lu et al. has not taught selecting a secondary latch from said at least three secondary latches. Furthermore, Lu et al. has not taught performing the context switch in a single clock cycle.

8. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tonia L. Meonske whose telephone number is (571) 272-4170. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday with first Friday's off.

10. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alford Kindred can be reached on (571) 272-4037. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

11. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TLM

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Tonia L. Meonske
July 25, 2007